Proposal from medical college of Allahabad University

†1226. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Medical College under Allahabad University with regard to providing more facilities in the Department of Pathology of the college to make it of higher level;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government with a view to medical exigency; and

(c) whether any order has been passed and the current status of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The proposal can be considered only after the proposed scheme under Eleventh Five Year Plan for funding upgradation & strengthening of State Government Medical/Dental colleges is finalized.

Alzheimer patients in the country

†1227. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of patients effected by Alzheimer disease in the country;

(b) whether the highly educated people are effected by this disease in particular;

(c) whether Government has taken any measures to prevent this disease;

(d) whether there is any arrangement for diagnosis and treatment of this disease in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) Based on the World Health Report, the prevalence of Alzheimer's disease is 5% in males and 6% in females, above the age of 60 years.

(b) There are no data available to show that the higher educated people are affected more by this disease.

(c) to (e) Diagnosis and treatment for Alzheimer's disease is provided in all the major hospitals of the country both in the Government and private sector. In addition, basic care for behavioural and psychological management of the disease is also provided through District Mental Health Programme under National Mental Health Programme which is proposed to be extended to all the Districts of the country in a phased manner during the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Usage of hazardous pesticides in vegetables and adulterations in food

1228. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports of extensive usage of hazardous pesticides in vegetables and adulterations in food articles;

(b) the number of persons booked for such offences;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.